

**MUIDS Air Quality Index (AQI)
Management Policy and Guidelines
2020-2021AY**

PURPOSE

At MUIDS we encourage students to actively participate in outdoor play and activities as part of a balanced lifestyle. PE lessons, breaks, and sports programs are all an integral part of being active and healthy, helping students to stay focused, reduce their stress, and increase their immunity. However, air quality (Air Quality Index - AQI) can present dangerous situations for students and staff, but with precautions situations can be minimized and controlled. Therefore, MUIDS has developed guidelines to ensure students are safe when taking part in activities outside and in non-air conditioned indoor spaces.

AQI (Air Quality Index)

MUIDS uses the Mahidol University AQI mobile monitors and often our action/response is guided by MU and our school Director. MUIDS also maintains four air quality (2.5 Detector) meters on the school campus that allow us to continually track levels of pollution and, when necessary, immediately act according to MUIDS policy.

Communication

The Department Head of Physical Education/Sports Coordinator is responsible for notifying the School Director and the Deputy Directors when the AQI reading is at or above Level 4 (55.5 to 150.4 PM 2.5/150-200 AQI - see table below) is responsible for notifying the School Director and the Deputy Directors.

MUIDS Air Quality Policy

For the purpose of monitoring student outdoor time a Six (6) level plan (see table below) has been developed to ensure student and staff safety. Precautionary Actions are defined by the US Environmental Protection Agency. An AQI reading at or above Level 4 (55.5 to 150.4 PM_{2.5}/150-200 AQI) is a cause for an alert.

Though all of us are impacted by air pollution, children are particularly vulnerable. In line with the recommendations of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Mahidol University data, we maintain a clear policy to ensure the wellbeing of all students and staff. It is recognized that the AQI can vary by several points. AQI data should not be viewed in isolation and decisions should not be made based on a single reading from only one device. Please follow the recommendations on the accompanying chart to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students and staff.

MUIDS Air Quality Policy (L1-L6)

2020-2021AY

PM 2.5	General Air Quality Index	Health Effects	Precautionary Actions	MUIDS Response	Communication
0 to 12.0	Level 1 Good 0 to 50	Air Quality is Satisfactory. Little to no risk.	None	All activities unaffected	None
12.1 to 35.4	Level 2 Moderate 51 to 100	Acceptable air quality. Unusually sensitive people may experience problems	Sensitive groups should reduce prolonged exertion.	Students with unusual sensitivity are monitored.	None
35.5 to 55.4	Level 3 Caution for Sensitive Groups 101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may be affected. The general public is not likely to be affected.	Sensitive groups, the elderly, and young children should avoid prolonged exertion.	Outdoor activities continue as planned. Students who are identified as sensitive are monitored by staff.	None
55.5 to 150.4	Level 4 Caution for All 151 to 200	Health effects may be experienced by all.	Sensitive groups, the elderly, and young children should avoid outside exercise. All others should limit outside exercise.	Outdoor activities may continue, but avoid prolonged exertion. Activities may also be of lower intensity.	Policy and Safety Reminder sent to parents and students via SMS
150.5 to 250.4	Level 5 Unhealthy 201 to 300	Health alert is triggered: everyone may experience more serious health concerns.	Sensitive groups, the elderly, and children should avoid ALL outdoor activities; all others should avoid prolonged exercise.	All outdoor activities and PE classes canceled (PE lessons move to library) Outdoor field trip decisions are based on the AQI of the destination.	Policy and Safety Reminder, as well as school decision, sent to students and parents via SMS
250.5 to 500.5	Level 6 Hazardous 301 to 500	Health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is likely to be affected.	Sensitive groups, the elderly, and children should remain indoors. Everyone should avoid all outdoor exercise.	All school members, except security, remain indoors.	Policy and Safety Reminder, as well as school decision, sent to students and parents via SMS